

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for detecting microorganisms of a bacterial
~~the elements constituting a microorganism flora, at least some of the elements of which have~~
an rpoBC operon in common, wherein the rpoBC operon comprises a noncoding intergenic
region, the method characterized in that: comprising:

a) ~~[[the]]~~ preparing genomic DNA of said flora or [[the]] mRNAs of said flora ~~is~~
~~(are) prepared,~~

b) amplifying at least some of [[the]] a noncoding intergenic region between two
genes,

wherein the two genes are an rpoB gene and an rpoC gene,

wherein the region is located in the rpoBC operon, and

wherein the amplified at least some of the noncoding intergenic region
comprises amplified intergenic regions ~~sequences located in the operon~~
~~conserved in at least some of the elements of the flora are amplified, and~~

c) identifying the various intergenic sequences regions ~~amplified are identified in~~
~~order to determine the elements~~ the microorganisms of said flora which have at
least one rpoBC operon in common.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
~~characterized in that the identification of the amplified sequences~~ regions ~~is carried out on a~~
~~DNA kit comprising~~ utilizing ~~sequences complementary to the sequences liable to be~~

~~amplified of said noncoding intergenic region between the rpoB and rpoC genes from the known elements microorganisms of said flora, and the demonstration of possible hybridizations making it possible to identify the elements present in the flora.~~

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that~~ wherein said noncoding intergenic region between the rpoB and rpoC genes is amplified utilizing the primers intended to amplify the intergenic sequence are located in ~~the coding sequences of the flanking genes~~ the rpoB and rpoC genes.

Claims 4-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (New): The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said primers are described by SEQ ID NO: 53 and SEQ ID NO: 54.

Claim 18 (New): The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein said microorganisms which have an rpoBC operon in common belong to Escherichia coli, Clostridium leptum, Klebsellia oxytoca, Lactococcus lactis, Citrobacter freundii, Serratia marcescens, Proteus mirabilis, Serratia liquefaciens, Morganella morganii, Euterobacter cloachae or Ruminococcus hydrogenotrophicus species.